

LOCAL NEWS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1861.

Major James Y. Davis.
DEAR SIR: The undersigned, deeply sympathizing with yourself and the Light Infantry battalion in the loss sustained by the corps by the destruction of their armory by fire on Wednesday morning last, have, if agreeable to yourself and the battalion you command thought proper to proffer a complimentary concert for the benefit of the Light Infantry, to take place under our auspices, at such time and place as the battalion may suggest.

Awaiting your earliest answer, we have the honor to subscribe ourselves, yours, respectfully,
JAS. G. BERRY,
W. W. SEATON,
and others.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1861.

Hon. J. G. Berret, W. W. Seaton, and others:
GENTLEMEN: It was with unfeigned pleasure that we received your note, so generously proffering to the Light Infantry battalion a complimentary concert, the proceeds of which to be applied for the benefit of the Light Infantry, and would state that the most agreeable time for said concert would be on Thursday evening, January 10th, at the Smithsonian Institution.

With high regards, I am gentlemen, respectfully yours,
JAMES Y. DAVIS,
Commanding W. L. I. Bat.

WASHINGTON, January 5, 1861.

To Miss Juliana G. May:

The late fire having destroyed the Armory and Drill Room, together with the equipments and furniture of the Washington Light Infantry, it is proposed to secure a portion of the means requisite to restore the military efficiency of the companies by a musical concert, to be given at an early day. To this end we have been appointed a committee to request you will allow us to promise, on this occasion, your valuable services.

We have the honor to be your obedient servants,
JAMES Y. DAVIS,
Major Washington L. I. Battalion.

EDWARD TOWERS,
Quartermaster.

LEMUEL TOWERS,
Captain Company A.

PETER M. DUBANT,
Captain Company B.

ROBERT C. STEVENS,
Captain Company C.

WILLIAM E. MORGAN,
Committee.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5, 1861.

To Major Davis, etc., Committee:

GENTLEMEN: I have to acknowledge your polite note of this date, and, recognising the special claims of the volunteer military corps upon every good citizen, with great pleasure I comply with your request.
Very respectfully,
JULIANA G. MAY.

COLUMBIA FIRE COMPANY.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—At a late meeting of Columbia Fire Company, No. 1, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the present year:

President, James A. Brown; Vice President, James McDermott; Treasurer, James A. Tait; Recording Secretary, A. P. McKenna; Corresponding Secretary, P. J. Ennis; Captain Engine Division, T. March; Captain Hose Division, James Low; Assistant Hose Division, J. P. Ennis, W. E. Tucker, and G. A. Barr; Marshal, Thomas H. Robinson; Librarian, W. Hicks; Election Committee, S. Waleis, J. S. Boates, G. A. Barr, J. Dyer, and J. H. Robinson; Library Committee, P. J. Ennis, H. C. Purdy, W. E. Tucker, G. C. Neal, and C. C. Edlin.

MARINES FOR FORT WASHINGTON.—On Saturday afternoon the steamer Philadelphia left this city for Fort Washington, having on board Major Terrett, two lieutenants, three sergeants, three corporals, two musicians, and forty privates. Fort Washington has been without a garrison for several years past, and this measure has only been adopted as a matter of prudence, so as to be prepared for a sudden act of aggression from any quarter.

A report was in circulation all day yesterday, that a large number of marines had arrived here from Brooklyn, to proceed further south. It had its origin in the fact that a portion of the guard of the U. S. ship Sam, of the Pacific squadron, consisting of a sergeant, two corporals, two musicians, and twenty privates, arrived here yesterday morning, having been relieved from ship duty.

A great variety of exciting rumors were abroad through the city yesterday. They were generally the result of the fertile imagination of some one who had nothing else to do than invent stories to alarm our citizens. People should not credit these stories unless well vouchered for.

FIRE AND ALARMS.—The following is a report of fires and alarms for the year 1860, kept by the Columbia Active Association, A. P. McKenna, Secretary:

	Fires.	Alarms.
January	5	4
February	5	5
March	11	6
April	11	5
May	8	5
June	8	6
July	3	1
August	4	0
September	5	4
October	7	0
November	6	2
December	11	1
Total	86	39

In 1859, there were 91 fires and 31 alarms.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE BURNS CLUB.—At a meeting of the Burns Club on Thursday evening last, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year: James Clephane, President; James Swindell, Vice President; Alexander Williamson, Secretary; Wm. B. Todd, Treasurer.

GUARD-HOUSE REPORT FOR 1860.—The following is the report of the number of prisoners brought in during the past year: January, 116; February, 164; March, 174; April, 115; May, 111; June, 122; July, 200; August, 172; September, 198; October, 162; November, 165; December, 240. Total 1,929. Lodgers during the year, 1,826.

CENTRAL GUARDHOUSE.—Saturday.—Charles Johnson, colored, was caught stealing chickens, and committed for court.

Arthur Mark, alias McBride, drunk and disorderly; fined \$2.94.

James Williams, Ellen Gregory, and H. Parker, disorderly; fined \$2.94 each.

Ann Kavenagh, beastly drunk, was sent to the workhouse for ninety days.

R. Compton, lunkstering without a license; fined \$5.94.

The Potomac river is again clear of ice, and the Alexandria boats run as usual.

THE OBSERVANCE OF FAST DAY.—In accordance with the proclamation of the President of the United States, Friday last was generally observed in the Federal Metropolis as a day of fasting and prayer. The Government Departments, the schools, the banks, and places of all kinds of business, were entirely closed, and a perfect Sabbath quiet reigned. In most of the churches, during the morning, devotional services, consisting mostly of prayer, were held.

Exercises in the U. S. House of Representatives.—It having been announced that exercises would take place in the Hall of the United States House of Representatives at two o'clock in the afternoon, an immense throng were gathered, which completely filled the floor, galleries, and all the doors leading thereto. Rev. Dr. Gurley, Chaplain to the United States Senate, commenced the exercises by an earnest prayer, in which he dwelt upon the present state of the country, and hoped that the clouds which were now hanging over it would soon pass away, and give place to a brightness more brilliant than ever. After the reading of the Scriptures, Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, Chaplain of the House of Representatives, spoke as follows:

Before I commence my address, I am induced, by an editorial in the Constitution of this morning, to say once and for all, that I am no party man, either in church or State. I but try to improve a little of the life and strength left unto me, by speaking for God and for humanity. Conscience, when enlightened by the Bible, and subject to its authority, is more than the Chaplaincy, more than the Presidency, or any other position on earth.

He then drew a comparison between the condition of the country now, and its condition on Thanksgiving day, two months ago, when, comparatively speaking, all was peace and harmony. Two months ago, the Governors of our States, with grateful joy, invited their fellow citizens to unite in the celebration of a day of thanksgiving and praise. Then there was no section; all animosity suspended over any section of the globe. Within whose boundless sphere lay such a domain, where reigned truth and peace, or such a society of personal, domestic, social, civil, and religious freedom, wisdom, purity, power, and glory, as glittered upon the vision of men, saints, angels, and Christ, and of God himself, the Father of all, within the golden circle of the American Union? It might well have been anticipated, that on the opening of the appointed and hallowed festival, there would go up one universal song of praise and joy, such as no nation on earth ever offered before.

But was it so? Alas! though the day was so fair, and the feast so bountiful, and so many divided families reassembled in old homesteads, and though the laugh of childhood was as clear as the tinkling of the cymbal, and the songs of youth and maidens were merry as the chiming of a wedding still, among all the mature and thoughtful of the land, there was a chilly gloom, sorrow, and fear, in all the temples of religion. And a cheerful tribute for Divine mercy in the past was almost subdued by lamentations over present human follies, and trepidations of future wrath and woe.

What now? Two weeks after Thanksgiving, another proclamation is issued. Not made by a Governor, and communicated to a State, but proceeding from the President, and extending throughout the Union.

Marvellous revolution! Hark! the Union of the States is at the present moment threatened with alarming and immediate danger. Two months ago, how different. Again famine and distress of a fearful character prevail throughout the land. Two months ago, how different. Again our laboring population are without employment, and consequently deprived of the means of earning their bread. Two months ago, how different. Again a mist seems to have encircled the minds of men. All classes are in a state of confusion and dismay, and the wisest counsels of our best and purest men are wholly disregarded. All this, how different two months ago. And so, in solemn haste, we turn back to the God of our fathers, as our only resort for relief from the awful effects of our own crimes and follies. Instead of coming in thanksgiving, though we have infinitely more to be thankful for than we are worthy to enjoy, we come in self-abasement, with self-affliction, and pour out our souls in most penitent and earnest supplications. Well may we thus come; for this day there is no section of the sky, suspended over any quarter of the globe, whose clouds are blacker, or on whose horizon such scenes are witnessed, of ingratitude towards God, of disregard of his blessings, of dishonor of national and universal brotherhood, of mad fanaticism and pride, and of terrific imminence of all unpeppable and perhaps endless evils, as those which disgrace and threaten to destroy, from centre to circumference, in spite of all mankind, this same American Union.

He here proceeded to speak of that which he said he regarded as being a more timely, a more important, and more imperative duty. Some might regard it as a divergence from the proprieties of the occasion, but he knew it was not. The day, the place, the interests of the outer world, all demanded such an utterance. In making it, he only attempted to reach the height of this great argument, and vindicate the ways of God to man. Now as of old there were many anti-Christians in the world. To these—Deists, Atheists, Theists, and infidels—he attributed all our present troubles. Faith in God, and obedience to his holy commands, was all that could save us. Referring again to the present condition of affairs in our country, he said:

And can it be that South Carolina is determined to destroy this Union? And can it be that other States encourage her rebellion? And that suddenly evil has come upon us, which it is already too late by any means to arrest? And now shall our enemies rejoice over us? Our enemies! Who are they? Where are they? By the blessing of God, the world is full of our friends. By the greatness of our Union, we have become the chief among the nations of the earth, and by the fairness of our conduct we have won their respect and affection. There was a time when Great Britain sent fleets and armies to subdue our colonies and ravage our States; but now, she instead sends her Prince and his train to mingle as equals with our people, and to stand with tearful eyes and reverent hearts, at the hallowed tomb of Washington! Lo! Lo! Even China and Japan will mourn for the rent in the flowery prairie. Even Africa, far more indulging a feeling of revenge, will stretch her hands unto God, and pray for the maintenance of our Union.

Lift up thy hoary hairs, thou aged and anxious President—lift up your heads, ye Governors of all the States—and ye, O prostrate people, rise and stand in the presence of God, and receive His blessing. Let the distracted and dangerous condition of the country be brought into its former state of harmony and peace. Let the Union of the States be confirmed. Let panic and distress subside. Let our laboring people abound in work and wages. Let the false pride of opinion be removed. Let friendship and good will be restored. Let the horrors of civil war be averted. Would any divide this Union, let them make the Mississippi a hundred miles wide and a thousand fathoms deep—an impassable line of perpetual storms. Let them turn the Alleghenies and the Rocky Mountains East and West and unite them in a Missouri compromise which cannot be abolished. Here is a vast and varied world, which

Jehovah reserved for thousands of years to be the crowning beauty and glory and wonder of all time. And must such a heritage as this be sundered and destroyed? Grasp thy broken staff, O flag of stars, superseded and dishonored by the pitiful palmetto. Start from thy eyrie, O eagle of the morning; shake from thy pinions the dews of the night, and relume thy vision at the splendor of the sunrise, lest the rattle-snake crawling up the cliff shall steal on thy slumbers and strike thee unawares. [Sensation and suppressed murmurs of applause.] God be merciful to us.

And has it really come to this? Vacant seats in the House, vacant seats in the Senate, vacant seats in the Cabinet, resignations in the army, resignations in the navy, resignation in the Confederacy, a secession Convention, a secession ordinance, a new oath of allegiance, Sabbath sessions, secret sessions, commissions from a foreign State, warlike preparations, seizure of forts and arsenals, seizure of Government vessels, obstructions in the channel, slaves throwing up earthworks along the coast, freemen leaving home and camping out on the wintry strand, marching and countermarching, in instant readiness for bloodiest conflict! How shall we account for this universal enthusiasm of utter madness? Slavery! The liberty of twenty-six millions imperilled by the servitude of four! It is said that the South loves slavery, and that the North abhors it; that the South is determined to maintain it forever, and that the North is resolved to abolish it as soon as possible; that it is an "irrepressible conflict;" that the States must be all slave States or all free States; therefore, the North hates the South, and the South hates the North, and we are mutual enemies. It is false! all false, utterly false. In the name of God and man, I pronounce it essentially and eternally false!

There is not now, there never was in all the history of the world, a people so welded into one living mass as there is within the limits of this glorious and beautiful Union. What do they, the Southern States, want? Slavery in the States? Let them have it; not because we approve it, but because it is there through the providential allotment of the Divine Being, and they alone are responsible for it. What do they want? Slavery in New Mexico? Let them try it. If they fail, the fault is their own, not ours. What do they want? The enforcement of the fugitive slave law? That is the duty of the General Government. Let it be performed. What do they want? The repeal of the personal liberty bills? If the States were ill advised in their passage, let them be repealed. What do they want? The privilege of slave service in their current transport through the land? Let them have it, without molestation, at their own inevitable risk. What do they want? Anything less than a sacrifice of principle, conscience, and honor—anything reasonable, proper, and expedient—anything which God may command and humanity yield? Let them have it, and our true love with it, and our prayers with our love. Does all that sound like hate? Pause, then, ye States preparing for secession. Reconsider thy course, thou lonely State that has seceded. Come back, South Carolina, back to the circle of honest and earnest affection. Come back with God's blessing. Come back with the national glory. Come back in peace. Come back before a single drop of blood shall be shed. Blessed be James Buchanan, if only for that one thing—that he will not, if he can help it, consent to the shedding of a single drop of blood. If he cannot help it, then let it be remembered that the ruler beareth not the sword in vain, for he is the minister of God, the revenger of exact wrath on him who doeth evil. Let his skirts be clear. Let the skirts of the army and navy be clear. Let the skirts of the still United States be clear.

The sermon was listened to with marked attention. The exercises were closed with the Doxology.

CRIMINAL COURT.—On Saturday, the case of Oliver Denham, charged with an assault and battery on John Black, was taken up. From the evidence in this case, it appears that Denham was walking along the street with a lady friend, when the plaintiff, who had been requested several times by the lady not to impose his company upon her, joined the party, and attempted to elbow Denham from his place. The latter immediately turned round and struck complainant several blows, when a scuffle ensued, in which the intruder came out second best. Hence the arrest of Denham. He was found not guilty; Stone for the defence.

Edward Johnson was then placed on trial, charged with an assault and battery on H. Roch, and also for an assault on Josephine Roch, the wife of the former. He was found not guilty on the charge of an assault on the former, but guilty in the case of the latter.

The court then adjourned until Monday, January 14th.

ESCAPE.—A marine by the name of Ryan escaped last evening from the penitentiary. It appears that he was under sentence of ten years' imprisonment, for shooting an officer, at Brownville, Texas, last July. He was last seen about six o'clock in the evening, at a grocery near the avenue, having his chains yet clinging to him.

A row occurred yesterday, near Benning's Bridge, which ended without any serious injury, although pistols were drawn, with the usually eloquent profane demonstrations.

While racing with some girls, on Sunday evening, John Wheeler, sixty-five years old, fell dead, at Lee, Massachusetts.

OFFICE MUTUAL FIRE INS. CO., Washington, D. C., December 31, 1860.

In pursuance of the charter, the following statement of the condition of the company is published, viz:

Amount of premium notes on hand \$125,076.83

Amount of loss during past year - 9,015.50

Amount of cash on hand - 9,950.00

Notice is also given, that the annual meeting of members will be held at the office of the Company, on Monday, the 21st instant, at ten o'clock A. M., when an election will be held for seven managers to serve for the ensuing year.

Jan 7—1861 CHARLES WILSON, Sec.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The members of the Perseverance Fire Company No. 5 have the pleasure to announce to their many inquiring friends and the public in general, that their third grand annual Collision Party will take place at Franklin Hall, corner of Ninth and D streets, on Tuesday, the 8th of January, 1861. Particulars in future advertisement. By order of the Executive Committee.

Dec 24—MT&S

DR. JOHN G. F. HOLSTON, Surgeon, Physician, and Accoucheur, No. 375 E. st. north, between Ninth and Tenth sts. west. Jan 3—3m

D. KOLB'S BALSAIC LUNG INVIGORATOR.

A CERTAIN CURE for Coughs, Colds, Affections of the Throat and Lungs. A trial will make every one its friend, being agreeable to take, and certain to cure. Price 50 cents.

For sale by Messrs. Gilman, Stott, Clark, Wright, Nairn, Ford, Kidwell, Thompson, Ridge, Moore, Major, &c.

Nov 26

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.

WASHINGTON BRANCH.

CHARGE OF HOURS.

ON and after Sunday, November 25th, 1860, the trains will run as follows:

Leave Washington:

First train at 6.20 A. M.

Second train at 7.40 A. M.

Third train at 3.10 P. M., Express.

Fourth train at 6 P. M.

Leave Baltimore:

First train at 4.15 A. M., Express.

Second train at 8.35 A. M.

Third at 3.10 P. M.

Fourth at 4.20 P. M., Express.

The first, second, and third trains from Washington connect through to Philadelphia and New York.

The second and third connect at Washington Junction with trains for the West, South, and Northwest; also, at Annapolis Junction for Norfolk take the 7.40 A. M. train.

For the accommodation of the way travel between Washington and Laurel, a passenger car will be attached to the tonnage train which leaves at 3.40 P. M.

On Saturday the 3.10 P. M. train goes to Philadelphia only.

Jan 4 T. H. PARSONS, Agent.

WITHOUT regard to cost, LAMMOND, Seventh street, will sell Toys, China Ornaments, Combs, Brushes, and Chess Men, Dominoes, Evening Fans, &c., cheaper than the cheapest.

Jan 4—3t

AT COST FOR CASH.—Evening Fans, Porte Monnaies, Ladies' Bags, Chess Men, Dominoes, &c. Call and get bargains at

dec 31—3t LAMMOND'S, Seventh st.

GREAT BARGAINS.—Toys, Fancy China Ornaments, &c., at cost, for cash, at

dec 29—3t LAMMOND'S, Seventh st.

FOR RENT.

A THREE-story Brick House, containing eight rooms, in good order, with gas fixtures complete, on H street, between Fourth and Fifth. Also, a two-story brick COTTAGE, with large yard attached, corner of F street north and Fourteenth street east. To punctual and reliable tenants the terms will be moderate. Apply at 440 Twelfth street, between G and H.

dec 29—1f

G. W. GOODALL,

Plumber and Gas and Steam Fitter

564 Seventh street, near Canal Bridge, Washington.

ALL orders executed at the shortest notice, in the most substantial manner, and on reasonable terms.

Personal attention given to every department of the business.

nov 26

FRESH TEAS.

I AM receiving a lot of Green and Black TEAS, among which are some of the finest grades as can be had, to which I invite the attention of all lovers of choice Green and Black Teas.

JESSE B. WILSON,

327 Pa. av., between Sixth and Seventh streets, south side.

nov 26

FURNISHED ROOMS

TO LET, with or without board. Terms moderate. Apply at No. 406 Eighth street, between G and H streets.

dec 20—1m

FOR RENT.

A FINE PARLOR, on the first floor, and three Chambers on the floor above, at No. 276 Pennsylvania avenue, two doors east of "Kirkwood House."

dec 1—1f

GOSHEN BUTTER AND CHEESE.

I WILL have in store in a day or two Choice GOSHEN BUTTER and CHEESE, of as fine quality as can be had, to which I invite the attention of purchasers.

JESSE B. WILSON,

327 Pa. av., between Sixth and Seventh streets, south side.

nov 26

BOARDING.

A CONGRESSIONAL MESS of four or five can be accommodated at Mrs. GILBERT'S, No. 548 Pennsylvania avenue, between First and Second streets, Washington, D. C.

nov 28—1f

CANDLES AND OIL.

20 cases Paraffine Candles.
20 boxes Sperm Candles.
50 boxes Adamantine Candles.
50 boxes Oil Candles.
1 case Coal Oil, for burning.

Lard, Whale and Sperm Oil.

Just received, and for sale by

E. E. WHITE & CO.,

No. 63 Louisiana avenue, bet. Sixth and Seventh streets, opposite Bank of Washington.

dec 15

HALL & WHITE,

MACHINISTS,

STEAM ENGINE BUILDERS,

AND

IRON RAILING MANUFACTURERS,

No. 23 Maine avenue, between Fourth and a-half and Sixth streets, Washington, D. C. nov 26

BOARDING.

By the Day, Week, or Month, with or without Rooms.

MRS. M. A. MILLS, having taken and fitted up, in handsome style, that large and pleasant house, No. 504 Pennsylvania avenue, third door east of Third street, between the St. Charles Hotel and Adams's Express Office, near the Capitol and railroad depot, is now prepared to accommodate Transient or Permanent Guests with pleasant rooms, with or without Board.

nov 26

B. SIEGEL,

391 Penn. av., between Fourth and a-half and Sixth sts., (south side.)

Importer and wholesale dealer in

WINE, BRANDY, GIN, CORDIAL, &c.

DRUGGISTS, Grocers, and Liquor Dealers, will find it to their advantage to give me a call. I will sell the goods direct from the Custom-House at New York prices.

Old Cincinnati Rye Whisky always on hand, with a choice assortment of Wines, Brandy, Gins, Cordials, &c.

dec 3—3m

Fine Family Groceries, Teas, &c.

Ray's, Welch's, and Bond's Family Flour.

New Virginia and Pennsylvania Buckwheat.

Fresh Corn Meal.

Choice Goshen Butter.

Prime Leaf Lard.

Choice Green and Black Teas.

New Sugar-cured Family Hams.

Just received and for sale low by

BROWNING & KRATING,

353 Penn. avenue, near Sixth street.

nov 30

DR. W. P. MCCONNELL,

SURGEON DENTIST, continues his operations at his old stand on Pennsylvania avenue, one door east of the St. Charles Hotel, where he will be pleased to have a call from all persons desiring anything done in his line of business.

nov 30

PROVISION STORE.

MRS. C. OCKSTADT, 470 Ninth street, between D and E streets, informs the public that she is prepared to supply them with Meat, Vegetables, and articles used in the preparation of Soups, of good quality and at low prices.

dec 24

W. KRZYANOWSKI,

Seventh Street Crockery Depot, 383 Seventh street, (under Dorsey's Hotel,) "Sign of the Plates," Washington, D. C.

CROCKERY, Glass, Cutlery, Coal-Oil Lamps, Kerosene and Coal Oil, at lowest prices.

nov 26

HAMS! HAMS!!!

I HAVE in store Maryland New HAMS, sugar-cured, prepared for family use.

JESSE B. WILSON,

327 Pa. av., between Sixth and Seventh streets, south side.

nov 26

HENRY JANNEY,